SILVER SURFER

GHOST LIGHT

JENNINGS · DE LANDRO · MILLA

MARVEL

5

TO SAVE HIS PLANET, NORRIN RADD SURRENDERED HIS FREEDOM TO BECOME HERALD TO THE WORLD-DEVOURING GALACTUS. COATED WITH GALACTIC GLAZE, GIVEN A SURFBOARD OBEYING HIS MENTAL COMMANDS, AND GRANTED THE POWER COSMIC, HE NOW SOARS THE UNIVERSE A SHINING SENTINEL OF THE SPACE WAYS!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

SILVER SURFER

GHOST LIGHT

PREVIOUSLY...

TONI BROOKS AND HER FAMILY HAVE MOVED INTO THE QUIET TOWN OF SWEETWATER. BUT THIS TOWN IS FULL OF MYSTERIES—THE CENTRAL ONES BEING: WHAT HAPPENED TO TONI'S UNCLE, AL HARPER, WHO SUDDENLY VANISHED YEARS AGO, AND WHY DOESN'T ANYONE REMEMBER THE DAY HE DISAPPEARED?

THE ANSWERS HAVE BEGUN TO EMERGE AS A COSMICALLY POWERED AL HAS RETURNED TO EARTH TO THE SHOCK OF HIS FAMILY AND HIS FRIEND, THE SILVER SURFER! BUT HE'S NOT ALONE, AS THE ALIEN HIVE MIND, THE STRANGER, HAS FOLLOWED HIM WITH AN ASSAULT FROM ALL SIDES!

PART 5: **"SECRET JOURNEY"**

JOHN JENNINGS
WRITER

VALENTINE DE LANDRO
ARTIST

MATT MILLA
COLORIST

VC's JOE SABINO
LETTERER

TAURIN CLARKE
COVER ARTIST

JAY BOWEN
LOGO DESIGNER

ANTHONY GAMBINO
DESIGNER

KAT GREGOROWICZ & **NOAH SHARMA**
ASSISTANT EDITORS

DARREN SHAN
EDITOR

C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

RECAP ART BY
JOHN & **SAL BUSCEMA**

SILVER SURFER CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

© 2023 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

SWEETWATER, NEW YORK.

YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD ESCAPE FROM US, AL HARPER? YOU *BELONG* TO USSSSS!!!

LET ME GO! I BELONG TO NO ONE!!!

NO USE STRUGGLING, DR. HARPER.

WE'LL SEE...

...ABOUT THAT, SOLOMON!

WOOSHHH!

KARAKK!

ARGGHHHHH!!!

LET ME GO, YOU MANIAC!!!

AAARGHH! YOU--YOU'RE COMING HOME!

I AM HOME, FOOL!

CEASE THIS INSANITY! NOW!

THIS IS NOT WHO WE ARE!

ZZZAPPP

UNNGGHHHH!

INNER FACTION! YOU TRAITOR! YOU DARE ATTACK US?!

RRRAARRRHHHH!

THIS WORLD WILL BURN FOR YOUR INSOLENCE!

WHOA!

UNFFFF!!!

ARGHHH!

KRA-KOOM

AHAHAHAHA! THAT LOOKED PAINFUL!

YOU SHOULD JUST COME WITH US, DR. HARPER.

THINK OF YOUR FAMILY!

N-NOOOOO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

YOU SHALL JOIN US ONCE MORE, AND WE WILL SCATTER YOU IN A MILLION ELECTRONS INSIDE OF US!

YOU FOOL! WE'RE OUR ONLY HOPE!

NOOOOOOO!

SILENCE, TRAITOR!

AHHH... MY A.I.M. BRETHREN.
ARE YOU READY TO GLIMPSE ETERNITY?
UNHHHHH...
S-SOMBRA! WHAT DID THEY... DO TO YOU?!
I HAVE BEEN... ENLIGHTENED, DR. BRATTON.
JOIN THE FOLD! JOIN THE UNIVERSE!
WHAT? N-NOOOOO!
A-AHHHH!!!
HMMMMMHHHH!
THE STRANGER WILL NOW KNOW OUR PLAN.
WE HAVE TO PROTECT THE IMPROVINATOR DEVICE!
GLENDA, WE HAVE TO PLAN AN ESCAPE FOR JOSH AND TONI IF THIS GOES SOUTH!
THERE'S NO RUNNING FROM THIS, DONNIE! HOW CAN WE RUN FROM THOSE THINGS OUT THERE?
FORGIVE MY INTRUSION INTO YOUR MINDS, CHILDREN.
I AM THE INNER FACTION, AND I NEED YOUR HELP OR ALL IS LOST!
WHAT THE--? YOOOOOO! THAT'S WEIRD!
EEP! UMMM... HELLO?

NOW, SPECIMEN. COME QUIETLY AND I'LL ONLY INCINERATE HALF OF THIS WORLD!

"SPECIMEN"?!

I AM NOT YOUR "SPECIMEN"!

I. AM. A. MAN!

AND HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE WITH YOU!

SO SWEARS THE SILVER SURFER!

GO FETCH DR. HARPER'S LITTLE "FAMILY."

HURGHHHH...YESSSS... SSSSOMBRAAA!

DONNIIIEEEE?!

I SEE THEM, BABY! EVERYBODY! IT'S TIME TO GO!!! NOW!

OH, LORD... HERE THEY COME!

NO. WE'RE NOT GOING *ANYWHERE!*

THIS IS *OUR* HOME! LET THEM COME...

GASP!

K-KIDS?!

"...THEY ABOUT TO FIND OUT!"

YOU SEE, LITTLE THING? IT'S INEVITABLE! YOU'RE MINE!

NO! NOOOOO!!!

STRANGERRRR!!!

LET!

WHAMMM

KRAKK

HIM!

GO!!!

KRASHH

HOW FAR FROM GRACE YOU'VE FALLEN, NORRIN.

YOU DO BELONG ON THIS MUD BALL WITH THESE PITIFUL CREATURES.

NOW BEGONE, SILVER WORM!

KRA-KOOOM

UHNNGGHHH!

SKRSHHHHHHH

KLAVGGGG

NORRIN! IF YOU'VE HURT HIM...!

ZZAPP

ARGHH! COME BACK HERE!

HE'S OUT COLD! NEED TO GET THE STRANGER SUBDUED!

[illegible]

WHAT? WE CAN DO THAT?

OH... OKAY!

KRAK-HHHHH

KNOCK KNOCK! HAHAHA!

AIEEEE!

OH NOOOO!

THOOOMMMMM

ARGHHHH!!!

HUHHKKSSSSSSS!!!

GET OUT!

YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST GONNA TAKE US? NOPE!

SURPRISE, MOTHER%&%%@!!!

KA-THOOOOM

ARGHHHHH!!!

H-HOW?

SSUHHHHHHHHH!

HOW DID YOU--?!

KIDS! ARE--ARE YOU OKAY?

SUMMER CAMP SUCKS!!!

WE'RE GOOD, MOM! BUT THE PLANET IS IN DANGER!

IF WE DON'T ACTIVATE UNCLE AL'S MACHINE, THE STRANGER WILL DESTROY THE WHOLE PLANET!

ENOUGH OF THIS! SOMBRA! GO DESTROY THE IMPROVINATOR ENGINE!

WE HAVE TO GET TO THE LAB!

C-COME, MY BRETHREN. WE MUST DESTROY THE DEVICE FOR OUR MASTER!

YESSS! HSSSKKKK!

WHY?! WHY ME?!

WHY? HAHAHAHAH!

I WANTED TO SEE WHAT LUNACY WOULD LEAD YOU TO SACRIFICE YOUR LIFE FOR THIS LOWLY CESSPOOL OF A WORLD!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO OLD YET SO IGNORANT, STRANGER?

I DIDN'T SAVE THE WORLD! I SAVED MY FAMILY! THAT'S ALL I WAS THINKING OF IN THOSE FINAL MOMENTS!

MY WIFE! MY SON! THEIR FUTURE!

ARGHHH!!!

WHAT *IS* THIS THING? WHAT'S IT DO?

YOUR UNCLE'S RESEARCH IS ON "MOLECULAR HARMONICS."

HE FOUND THAT USING POLYRHYTHMIC MUSICAL TONES CAN CREATE LIMITLESS ENERGY THROUGH THEIR VIBRATIONS...

...ESPECIALLY THROUGH SPONTANEOUS MODULATIONS.

YOUR WORLD CALLS THIS "IMPROVISATION."

SO THIS THING IS GOING TO USE IMPROVISATIONAL JAZZ TO "RETUNE" THE STRANGER?

EXACTLY, JOSH!

DON'T YOU SAY IT!

HEY, KIDDOS! LET'S DO THAT AGAIN, SHALL WE?

DESSTROYYYYYYY!

SSSSSSSSS!

BUT FIRST, LET'S DISPENSE WITH THIS LITTLE TOY!

BRZAAPPPP

NOOO!

THE MACHINE!

YOU WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT LOVE OR FAMILY, WOULD YOU?

YOU DON'T COLLECT US FOR EXPERIMENTS! YOU'RE AFRAID TO BE ALONE!

YOU'RE JUST A LONELY COSMIC JOKE!

IS THAT RIGHT, YOU INSECT?!

THEN I SHALL ADD YOUR PATHETIC FAMILY TO MY COLLECTION AND INTRODUCE THEM TO NEW KINDS OF ANGUISH!

ONCE THEY'VE CURSED YOUR NAME A THOUSAND TIMES, I'LL MAKE YOU ALL WATCH AS I BURN THIS WORLD...EVER SO SLOWLY!

NO! STAY AWAY FROM THEM!

RARRGHHHHHH!!!

ARRGHHHH! WHAT...WHAT IS THIS PAIN?! MASTERRR!!!

HARGHHHHH!

TONI! I'LL GUIDE YOU BOTH ON THE WORKINGS OF THIS MECHANISM!

IS THIS THE PLATFORM SWITCH?

YES, TONI! THAT IS IT!

BREEEEEEEEEE

WHOA! NEAT! IT'S LIFTING US UP! IT NEEDS TO GO FASTER THOUGH!

IT'S TIME, AL!

YES. BUT THE DATA SAMPLER AND THE POWER CORE ARE BOTH DAMAGED!

UNGHHHH...

OH WOW. THIS...THIS IS HIGH UP!

TONI! FOCUS! I NEED YOUR PHONE AS A SOURCE FOR THE DEVICE TO IMPROVISE FROM!

COME HERE, KIDDIES! I WANT TO HEAR YOU SCREAM!

THE EARTH IS OUT OF TIME, LITTLE ONES!

HKSSSAAHHHH!

OH MY GOD! THAT WOMAN IS GONNA HURT MY BABIES!

THIS IS NOT HAPPENING!

LORD, WHAT CRAZY OBEAH IS THIS?!

TONI, YOU ARE GOING TO BE OUR NEW POWER SOURCE!

OH. OKAY...!

CURSES! THE MACHINE MUST BE CALIBRATED TO A SPECIFIC HARMONIC SELECTION!

UNCLE AL! WHAT'S THE SONG SOURCE? UNCLE AL!

HIS...POWER RIVALS THAT OF GALACTUS. CAN'T KEEP THIS UP!

UNGHH! THE SONG IS FROM "COSMIC MUSIC" BY THE COLTRANES!

TRACK ONE!

HURRY UP!!!

AH...YES! "MANIFESTATION"!

WHAT IS...HAPPENING-- AHHHRRGHHH?!

THEY DID IT!

INDEED THEY DID!

ARRGHHH!

AHHHH!!! THIS...MUSIC!!!

AHH... MANNN...YOU THINK MY DATA PLAN COVERS THIS?

TONI! THIS IS ALICE AND JOHN COLTRANE SAVING THE WORLD!

PLEASE GET SOME PERSPECTIVE!!!

ARGHHHHH!!

I THINK... I THINK THIS IS WORKING, NORRIN!

IT IS! I CAN SENSE THE COSMIC DISTORTIONS IN HIS PSYCHE COMING BACK INTO SYNC!

STRANGER?

ARE YOU... WELL?

HUH... HUH...!!!

UMM...Y'ALL AIGHT, MONSTER LADY?

HELLO?

UNGHH... SOLOMON. MY NAME IS SOMBRA... SOLOMON.

WHERE AM I?

THEY... THEY DID IT!

I AM NOT SURE WHAT HAPPENED, BUT... WOW.

THANK THE LORD. THE DUPPIES ARE GONE!

THIS WAS AMAZING!!!

THANK YOU. YOU HAVE SAVED ME AND MY PEOPLE.

YOU ARE WELCOME, GIGANTIAN.

I DIDN'T DO IT FOR YOU.

OKAY. OKAY! I FEEL YOUR LOOK. JUST GO AHEAD AND SAY IT.

YASSSS! THE POWER OF JAAZZZZUHHHH!

EPILOGUE.

OKAY. I THINK THIS IS THE LAST ONE.

AND THAT WAS HOW MY FIRST DAY BACK FROM THE DEAD ENDED. SOMBRA AND THE STRANGER REVERTED EVERYONE BACK TO NORMAL.

SCARLET SECTOR EXPUNGED MY FILES AND CALLED IT EVEN.

THE STRANGER APOLOGIZED TO ME AND MY FAMILY PROFUSELY. HE EVEN LEFT ME A MYSTERIOUS "GIFT" IN MY LAB, WHICH, I HAVE TO SAY, I AM STILL WARY OF OPENING.

HMM... TROJAN HORSE OR LOOKING A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH? WHICH DO I BET ON?

SOMBRA DECIDED TO GO WITH THE STRANGER TO HELP HIM FIND A NEW PLANET WHERE HE COULD START NEW GIGANTUS. SHE HAD ONE STOP TO MAKE THOUGH.

SOMBRA? PRAISE GOD!

IT SEEMED LIKE SHE WAS EXTREMELY EXCITED ABOUT THE PROSPECTS. SUCH A STRANGE SPIRIT, THAT ONE.

I'M GOING AWAY FOR A BIT, AND I'LL MISS YOU, MICHAEL. OUR PARENTS MISS YOU TOO.

WAIT. WHAT?

MAYBE TOGETHER, THEY WILL FIND WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR.

ALLONS-Y!

HEY...TRY NOT TO BE A STRANGER.

HEH. FAREWELL, MY FRIEND.

I HATE THAT MY HUSBAND WINSTON COULDN'T HAVE MET YOU, NORRIN.

OKAY... THIS IS SO COOL!

TONI! JOSH!

DO YOU HAVE TO GO, MR. SURFER?!

THE SURFER SAID GOODBYE ONCE AGAIN WITH A PROMISE TO KEEP UP HIS YEARLY VISITS. THIS TIME, AS MORE OF A REUNION THAN A REMEMBRANCE.

AS THE SURFER LEFT, I BEGAN TO WONDER IF I SHOULD DO AS SOMBRA DID. I FOUND MYSELF MISSING LABWORLD. IT HAD BEEN MY HOME FOR OVER A DECADE.

HOW WOULD I FIT IN AND FIGURE OUT HOW TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD? HOW FOOLISH THAT I FELT MORE AT HOME AROUND ALIENS NOW THAN MY OWN FAMILY.

I FIND MYSELF WALKING THE SAME PATH THAT I USED TO IN TONI'S DREAMS.

THIS TIME, I STARE INTO THE HOLE IN THE GROUND THAT WAS ONCE MY GRAVE AND WONDER WHAT'S NEXT.

CAN I EVEN ATTEMPT TO FILL THIS VOID IN MY LIFE WITHOUT MY WIFE AND SON?

HEY, UNCLE AL!

YOU OKAY?

NO. BUT I WILL BE.

I'VE DEDICATED MOST OF MY TIME TO FIGURING OUT HOW TO HELP TONI AND JOSH ADJUST TO THEIR NEW ABILITIES.

WHERE'S THE OFF SWITCH? I WANT DOWN!

YOU'RE DOING GREAT, JOSH!

I AM BOTH EXCITED AND AFRAID OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT THEY CAN DO. I JUST WANT TO KEEP THEM SAFE.

I'VE ALSO BEEN RESEARCHING THE EFFECTS OF COSMIC RAYS ON THE ENVIRONMENT HERE IN SWEETWATER. I'VE FOUND SOME INTERESTING PHENOMENA.

SO, WHAT CAN YOU SEE NOW, TONI?

UM... EVERYTHING? LIKE...AT THE SAME TIME?

I'M ALSO STILL LEARNING ABOUT MY NEW BODY. I DON'T REALLY GET HUNGRY ANYMORE, I'VE FOUND.

STILL, IN SPITE OF THE CONSTANT FEELING OF BEING AN OUTSIDER, I DID MISS THE SOUNDS OF FAMILY. THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT.

THIS JERK CHICKEN IS THE BUSINESS!

PLANTAINS! SO GOOD!

THANKS, MAMA.

AL, YOU BETTER GET SOME OF THESE OXTAILS!

YOU'RE NOT EATING, AL?

I JUST LOVE THE COMPANY! NOT REALLY HUNGRY.

I GO TO A GALLERY TO SEE MY WIFE'S ART SHOW: "*ELEGY: A LOVE SUPREME.*" IT'S A SERIES OF 54 PAINTINGS DEDICATED TO HER LOSING...ME.

SHE'D GIVEN UP ART TO RAISE SEAN.

WHAT A TRAVESTY THAT WAS! I'M MOVED TO TEARS. DONNIE SAID SHE WAS AN "*ART SUPERSTAR.*" UNDERSTATEMENT. SHE TURNED LEMONS INTO LEMONADE AND THEN SOME.

I STILL NEVER FIGURED OUT WHAT LIGHT GUIDED ME FROM THE DARKNESS. I GUESS I'LL NEVER KNOW. MAYBE IT WASN'T REAL AT ALL.

I STILL HAVE SO MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THIS ABILITY TO SPEAK TO SYSTEMS.

FOR INSTANCE, I LEARNED LATER THAT WHEN I FIXED MY MOTHER'S PACEMAKER, I DIDN'T JUST FIX HERS. I FIXED EVERY PACEMAKER OF THAT KIND IN THE WORLD!

INCREDIBLE.

THREE MONTHS HAVE PASSED. I GUESS IT'S TIME FOR ME TO FACE ONE LAST THING.

AFTER FIGHTING A COSMIC-POWERED MONSTER FROM SPACE, YOU'D THINK I'D BE LESS TERRIFIED.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

I KNOW THAT MY FAMILY TOLD JAMAICA AND SEAN THAT I WAS BACK.

NOT SURE WHY I WAITED SO LONG.

MY LEGS FEEL LIKE LEAD. MY STOMACH IN KNOTS.

SEEING JAMAICA'S NEW PARTNER, ORLANDO, IS PAINFUL. SHE'S MOVED ON. OF COURSE SHE HAS.

QUESTION IS, HAS SEAN MOVED ON TOO? I'M THE STRANGER NOW.

AL! IT'S SUCH A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, BROTHER!

UM. ORLANDO! HI!

COME IN! JAY? LOOK WHO'S HERE.

UM, OKAY...

AL? OH MY GOD!

IT'S... I MISSED YOU SO MUCH!

IT'S A MIRACLE! A MIRACLE!

I WANT TO RUN AND HIDE. JUMP BACK IN THAT HOLE. I'VE LITERALLY COME BACK FROM THE DEAD!

WHY CAN'T I FACE THIS? DON'T BE "FRAIDY FRAIDY" MY DAD USED TO SAY.

SO... ARE YOU READY?

NO. I'M TERRIFIED.

SEAN! YOU HAVE A VISITOR!

COMING, MOM!

WHO IS IT?

A CALM COMES OVER ME. I SEE NOW WHERE THE LIGHT CAME FROM. THE LIGHT WHOSE WARMTH GUIDED ME THROUGH A SECRET JOURNEY IN A SEEMINGLY UNENDING NIGHT.

I'VE FOUND MY BEACON. MY SUN. I KNEW THAT WHEN I FOUND THAT GHOST LIGHT, I WOULD FIND MYSELF. I KNEW.

D-DAD?! YOU'RE HERE?!

AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG, LONG WHILE. I KNOW EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.

"THEY TRIED TO BURY US, BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE SEEDS."
--DINOS CHRISTIANOPOULOS

FOR JOSH.

THE END.